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|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Notice of Allowability</b> | <b>Application No.</b> | <b>Applicant(s)</b> |  |
|                               | 10/659,853             | Dahlberg            |  |
|                               | <b>Examiner</b>        | <b>Art Unit</b>     |  |
|                               | Katherine A. Bareford  | 1762                |  |

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment of March 14, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5 and 7-10.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 9/11/03 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)                                  |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>attached</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment  |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance                                    |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____  |

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### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Rolf Fasth on May 2, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 6 is canceled.

Claim 10 is amended to read:

10. (Currently Amended) A method of applying a coating on a paper substance comprising:

moving a paper over a roller;

applying a coating to the paper with a coating-color applicator;

vibrating a blade with an ultrasonic transducer in operative engagement with the blade; and

applying the vibrating blade to the paper to scrape off excessive coating from the paper; and

bending the blade with a pressure applicator that bears against the blade while the paper moves past the blade; and

providing the pressure applicator with an ultrasonic transducer that vibrates the pressure applicator.

2. The Examiner's Amendment above cancels claim 6, because that refers to a different embodiment of the invention (see page 15 and figure 9 of the specification) than that now required by parent claim 1. The amendment to claim 10 provides the features of claim 2, which claim 10 originally depended from, in the claim, thus providing antecedent support for "the pressure applicator".

3. The March 14, 2005 and Examiner's Amendment above overcome all the pending rejections to the claims. Claim 2 has been amended as suggested to overcome the claim objection at paragraph 1 of the Office Action (of Feb. 9, 2005). The specification has been amended to correct for the informality described at paragraph 2 of the Office Action. Claim 8 has been clarified to overcome the 35 USC 112, first paragraph rejection described at paragraph 4 of the Office Action. Claims 1, 3 and 7 have been amended to overcome the 35 USC 112, second paragraph rejection described at paragraph 6 of the Office Action. Independent claim 1 has been amended to overcome the 35 USC 103 rejection described at paragraph 8 of the Office Action (see the discussion in the REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE below). Claims 5 and 10 have been amended to be in allowable independent form as suggested by paragraph 9 of the Office Action.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the closest prior art is to Leino et al (US 6303187) and DE 2356737 (hereinafter '737). Leino teaches a method of coating a paper substance as a paper substrate is moved over a roller and then applying a blade to the paper to scrape off excessive coating from the paper. See the discussion at paragraph 8 of the Office Action. '737 further teaches using a doctor blade that is pressed against a paper to regulate thickness of a coating on a paper web, whereby the blade is vibrated by a ultrasonic device that is adhered against the blade during coating. The vibrations are imparted perpendicularly to the plane of the doctor blade. See the Abstract and paragraph 8 of the Office Action. However, the prior art, alone or in combination, does not teach or suggest the invention as is now claimed. Specifically in independent claim 1, it is now required that the vibrations be in a direction parallel to and along a length of the blade (the length of the blade is along the direction from the tip of the blade to the holder, i.e. parallel to the plane of the blade, as shown by figure 12 and page 16 of the specification). This is the opposite of '737 which requires the vibrations to be perpendicular to the plane of the doctor blade. As to independent claim 5, it requires the holder with grooves, which is not taught or suggested by the prior art. As to independent claim 10, it requires another transducer to vibrate the pressure applicator, which is not taught or suggested by the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Katherine A. Bareford whose telephone number is (571) 272-1413. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F(6:00-3:30) with the First Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy Meeks can be reached on (571) 272-1423. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and for After Final communications.

Other inquiries can be directed to the Tech Center 1700 telephone number at (571) 272-1700.

Furthermore, information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
KATHERINE BAREFORD  
PRIMARY EXAMINER